

ASU Prime Times

Summer 2009 Arizona State University Retirees Association Newsletter

President's Message



Welcome to all of you new and renewing members for 2009/2010! Our membership drive began in early June and many of you have returned your completed applications and dues. The current application presented two significant changes: a dues increase from

\$10 to \$20 annually and the opportunity to donate to ASURA beyond the payment of dues. Thank you for accepting the need for a dues increase at a time when our university support was decreased due to the budget crises facing ASU. A very special thanks to so many of you for your additional donations to support our operations and special projects, the Video History, Scholarship and Adopt-a Family programs. In a difficult economic time, you are demonstrating the commitment that keeps our organization strong and viable.

I have several significant announcements. Dave Scheatzle, a former ASURA president and the organizer of the annual golf tournament, our major fund-raiser, also managed to edit the **last twelve issues of *Prime Times***. That was a four-year commitment devoted to a very time-consuming and important goal—effective communication with the membership. This year, Dave graciously advised that he believed it was time for another member to have the opportunity to be editor of our newsletter. Fortunately, Janet Soper and Wilma Mathews agreed to accept the responsibility for producing *Prime Times* (this is their first issue). A huge thanks to them. On behalf of ASURA, I thank Dave Scheatzle for his hard work, professionalism, and consistent efforts in producing a quality newsletter three times per year. You did a wonderful job, Dave!

I know you have read about tuition and fee increases imposed on ASU students due to the dire economic budget crisis Arizona is facing. In the past, ASURA has provided a \$5,000 scholarship to a student each year based on financial need. This year, the Board realized that this amount is insufficient to cover the cost of tuition. In May, the ASURA Board voted to increase the scholarship to \$6,500, effective for 2009/2010. Our scholarship directly

benefits an ASU student and your Board felt the organization must provide full tuition support.

In my two years with ASURA, I have been amazed at the many talents of our members who volunteer to staff the office every day, chair or serve on committees, handle our membership drive, create and update our computer data bases and home page, collect and preserve the university's history by recording live interviews of esteemed current and former ASU leaders, advocate for us with the Arizona Legislature, ASRS and ADOA, and plan luncheons, travel and Retirees Day.

In an organization of volunteers, more are always needed. I encourage you to offer your time to assist the organization in an area of interest to you. You may contact me at marystevens0@gmail.com. You and ASURA will benefit from your participation and, I guarantee, you will enjoy the experience. I look forward to our year ahead.

—Mary Stevens
President 09–10

Your Travel Committee Is On the Move In the Rearview Mirror ...

The Travel Committee of ASURA planned and carried out three successful trips for our members this past year. "Successful" was measured by the very positive response the travelers had to the adventures.

The spring trip was a three-day outing to Canyon de Chelly, including a visit and lunch at La Posada in Winslow and a guided-narrated open vehicle tour along the floor of the Canyon. Spectacular! Informational lectures added to our understanding and appreciation of the place and the people.

Another guided tour was held on the Tempe campus with an introduction and explanation of the invaluable collections we have housed here. The collections include many items, documents and artifacts of artistic, scientific and historic significance. The title, *We Love ASU Collections*, took on great meaning by the end of the day.

A third trip was made to Cosanti and Taliesin last fall. The group learned so much about these very significant Phoenix area landmarks and why they receive the accolades

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New ASURA Officer/Board Bios

Gary Anderson



Gary received his undergraduate and master's degrees from Edinboro State College in Pennsylvania and his doctorate from the University of Pittsburgh. He has taught at Slippery Rock and Salisbury State Colleges and was a visiting lecturer at Syracuse University and Armidale College of Advanced Education in Australia. Gary retired in December 2000 after 25 years of full-time teaching. Gary and his wife Marge enjoy outdoor activities and travel.

Jim Fordemwalt



Jim has a Ph.D. from The University of Iowa and participated in the infancy of the microelectronics industry beginning in 1960. He joined ASU in 1987 and retired in January 2001. He is Professor Emeritus of the Electronics & Computer Technology Department on the Polytechnic (formerly East) Campus. His specialty is Microelectronics Technology. Last year he joined the ASURA Board of Directors as liaison to the University Club. He is also a member of the University Club Board of Directors. He has been married for 45 years and has two sons and five grandchildren.

Jo Madonna



Jo retired in May 2006 from the ASU West campus as associate vice provost of Student Affairs and Dean of Students. She holds a baccalaureate degree in history from Villa Madonna College in Kentucky and a master's degree from the University of Missouri-Kansas City. Jo and her husband Matt ride motorcycles for weeks at a time touring the west. She enjoys live theatre and movies and is a baseball fan.

Rose Minetti



Rose joined ASU in 1990 where she served as exhibit curator for the ASU Libraries, Archives and Special Collections. She earned her Master of Arts degree in 1995. Rose created numerous exhibits about Arizona, including on-line exhibits, until her retirement in 2006. Rose continues her work as a professional artist with representation in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, and Washington, D.C. Her interests include hiking, biking, gardening and travels.

Carolyn Minner



Carolyn came to Phoenix in 1991 via Flagstaff, and joined ASU West as administrative assistant for the Computing Services department where she worked until she retired as business manager senior in 2006. She enjoys visiting her family in Indiana and catering to her Maltepool named Peanut.

Bill Moor



Bill joined ASU in 1968 and retired in January 2007 after holding several positions in the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences. His undergraduate and master's degrees are from Washington University (St. Louis) and his doctorate is from Northwestern University. Bill held numerous national and local offices in his professional society, the Institute of Industrial Engineering where he is a Fellow. Bill and his wife Marilyn have been married for 45 years. His hobbies include bowling, stamp collecting, following ASU sports and reading.

Lonnie Ostrom



Lonnie is Professor of Marketing and the Joan and David Lincoln Professor of Applied Business Ethics in the W. P. Carey School of Business. He also is President Emeritus of the ASU Foundation, where he served for 23 years. He consults nationwide with a number of nonprofit organizations and has published numerous articles in business journals. His research and interests include nonprofit marketing and nonprofit fund raising.

Bill Stasi



Bill is a Chicago transplant, arriving in Arizona in 1993. He is a two-time retiree, first from the U. S. Navy in 1991 and next from ASU Facilities Management in 2007. His travel experiences and knowledge have helped re-energize the ASURA Travel Committee. His desire for future travel include the As and the Ps: Asia, Antarctica, Amazon, Australia and Africa to see the Pandas, Penguins, Pygmies, People, Pyramids and Pachyderms.

The Arizona State Retirement System



The most pressing news regarding the Arizona State Retirement System (ASRS) is that ASURA needs a volunteer to serve as our liaison to, and watch-dog over, the ASRS's health-insurance program. The ASRS maintains an advisory committee composed of retirees who subscribe to an ASRS health-insurance plan. At the May 15, 2009, meeting of the ASRS Board of Trustees, Mr. Pat Klein announced that Pacificare has been selected as the health-insurance provider for the ASRS for the coming service year, and he noted that the selection had been approved by the retiree advisory committee. ASURA's place on this committee was and still is vacant, however, for lack of a willing ASURA retiree who subscribes to ASRS health insurance.

We need someone to fill this position. In addition to serving on the ASRS advisory committee, our representative would also monitor the ongoing activities of the ASRS health-insurance program (for example, by establishing contact with Mr. Klein) and make occasional reports to the ASURA Board of Directors on changes or problems in the program. Our liaison must be an ASRS retiree who subscribes to its health insurance. If you are this person or know a likely volunteer, please contact me (apjinaz@hotmail.com; 480-966-9617) or ASURA President Mary Stevens (marystevens0@gmail.com).

As I noted in the Winter 2009 *Prime Times*, the value of the ASRS retirement fund rises and falls with the

fortunes of the U.S. financial markets. From a high of \$28 billion in June 2007, prior to the sub-prime mortgage crisis and the subsequent global credit crunch, the value of the ASRS fund fell fairly steadily to a low of \$16.7 billion on March 16, 2009. Just as the U.S. stock market, as measured by the Dow Jones Average, has been slowly rising since mid March, so the value of the ASRS fund has been rising: to \$18.7 billion on March 31, 2009, and \$19.9 billion on April 30, for example. The ASRS still anticipates a significant, though still modest, recovery of the U.S. economy and the stock market by the end of 2009 or the beginning of 2010.

In view of the global economic situation, the ASRS continues to take special care to maintain an adequate cash flow (e.g., for payments of benefits) by such measures as deferring new investments in private equities and real estate (both involve long-term commitments) until at least June 30, 2009. Members of the ASRS Plan (including most members enrolled since 1971) can take comfort in the prospect that the source of their entirely guaranteed annuities seems to be recovering, even if only slowly. There is no firm news at the time of this writing about the impact of the decline of the fund in fiscal years 2008 and 2009 on the annuities (which are only partially guaranteed) of members of the pre-1971 System for the coming year. For that news, check the website, <http://www.azasrs.gov>, in the late-summer months.

— Alan Johnson
ASURA Liaison to the ASRS

“Your Travel Committee,” continued from page 1

they do. And the lunch at the historic El Charro restaurant in Scottsdale was pretty significant, too!

And Looking On Down the Road ...

The Travel Committee has organized two exciting trips for the upcoming year, with a third likely in the works.

On November 4th and 5th, we will set off for our trip on the Verde Canyon Railroad. We will have our own private train car, a cowboy dinner and show at the Blazing M Ranch, a tour of Old Town Cottonwood and a night at the Jerome Grand Hotel. Trip registration is now full, although a waiting list has been started. Registration form and details are available at <http://asura.asu.edu> or by calling 480-965-7668.

Coming in May 2010 is the trip of a lifetime. How about a walk on the Great Wall? A three-day cruise on the

Yangtze? And a tour of the Forbidden City? This spectacular 22-day guided tour will also include visits to the Terra Cotta Warriors in Xian, a cruise on the Li River and a show directed by the producer of the Olympic ceremonies. Complete details, including itinerary and registration form, are available at <http://asura.asu.edu/ChinaMay2010> or by calling 480-965-7668. Estimated cost is about \$4,200, inclusive. Eleven “chopsticks” have already signed up. Informational meetings are scheduled for September and October. A \$100 deposit now holds your seat. Registration deadline is December 1, 2009. Contact tour leader Gary Anderson at gwander@asu.edu or 480-839-3542.



— Bill Stasi
Travel Committee Co-Chair

CHINA ... Your Destination in May 2010

Join the ASU Retirees Association for an incredible 22-day trip of a lifetime

- Walk the **Great Wall**, a remarkable feat of mankind over 4,000 miles long
- Cruise the **Yangtze** for three days through the spectacular **Three Gorges**
- Say hello to the **Terra Cotta Warriors** in Xian
- Visit the **Forbidden City**, the unbelievable home to centuries of Emperors
- Visit **Guilin** and cruise the **Li River**, viewing spectacular scenery
- Visit the **Summer Palace**, the **Temple of Heaven** and **Tiananmen Square**
- Attend **Chinese** acrobatic, music and folk theatre and a water farm
- Shoppers will love **Silk Street** and the **Pearl Market**
- Everyone will relish the **dumpling dinner**, the **Mongolian hotpot** and the **Beijing duck** dinner



Visit the ASURA website at <http://asura.asu.edu>:

- To view the complete itinerary

- To view pictures of the trip
- To decide if this trip is right for you
- To view the calendar of informational meetings
- To view an estimate of cost and payment deadlines

Or call the ASURA office at 965-7668 to have a packet mailed to you.

A series of one-hour informational meetings were scheduled to provide detailed specifics on the trip and on travel in China. The meetings were held in the Tempe Public Library: the first one on May 14, 2009 and the second on June 5, 2009. The last two will be scheduled in September and October. **Watch for announcements!**

The estimated cost of \$4,400 includes roundtrip airfare Phoenix–Shanghai–Beijing–Phoenix, three-day/four-night cruise on the Yangtze River, approximately 60 meals, three internal train trips, four internal flights, day cruise on the Li River, several additional lake cruises and 21 nights of lodging. But you must purchase your own silk shirts and sheets! Departure will be May 15–18, 2010, to return June 5–8, 2010. \$100 will hold your seat until mid October.

QUESTIONS? Contact **Gary Anderson**, Travel Committee member, via email gwander@asu.edu or phone 480 839-3542



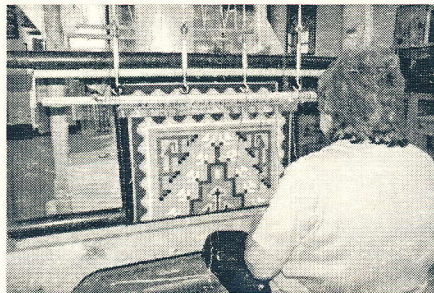
—Gary Anderson
Travel Committee

ASURA'S Canyon de Chelly Trip

On April 13, 30-plus ASURA members and guests boarded a bus at Tempe Library for a three-day/two-night adventure into the past, through visits to Canyon de Chelly in the Navajo nation and Pueblo Villages on Hopi lands.

ASURA's partnership with the NAU Elderhostel program and the Hopi guide provided interesting, informative commentary, history, stories and anecdotes as our comfortable bus carried us toward northeast Arizona.

First on our varied itinerary was lunch at the La Posada hotel in Winslow, with a brief tour of this former Harvey House, opened in 1929 and now tended by the Winslow Harvey Girls, who serve as greeters and guides. Next we had a break for shopping at the Hubble Trading Post at Ganado and then settled in for two nights at the Holiday Inn in Chinle. Following dinner each evening, we enjoyed an



informative presentation with entertainment by a Navajo speaker-singer-dancer.

Next morning began our Destination Tour of Canyon de Chelly—*tseyi*—in Navajo. We embarked on a bus tour of the south rim, with several stops at scenic overlooks, where we took many pictures of pueblo ruins in caves and crevices on the canyon walls, learned the stories of Face Rock, and viewed the 800-foot-tall monolith called Spider Rock. Our local guide kept us enlightened with fascinating explanations of Navajo history, culture, and lore.

After a traditional Navajo lunch we spent the afternoon hours touring the floor of the canyons De Chelly and Del Muerto in comfortable, 16-passenger open trucks equipped to drive through the shallow river spreading through much of the Canyon. Informative explanations and interesting personal comments were provided by our local Navajo drivers as we viewed the many towering rock formations, ancient petroglyphs, pictographs

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and prehistoric pueblo ruins, including Kokopelli Cave, First Ruin, Junction Ruin and White House Ruin—evidence of human habitation in these canyons for several thousand years.

On our final day, our trip took us through the Hopi Reservation, to visit and lunch at the Hopi Cultural Center on Second Mesa. Our Hopi guide, who had traveled with us from Tempe, treated us to a fascinating and educational presentation about the Kachina Doll craft (of which he is a practitioner) along with continuing stories of Hopi beliefs and traditions. After lunch, our planned visit to Third Mesa and Old Oraibi Village was obscured by the 60-mph dust storm that descended on that area on April 15th, even closing I-40 between Winslow and Flagstaff to high-profile vehicles. Perhaps it just added a bit of unplanned realism to our understanding of the harshness of the traditional Native American way of life as we concluded our adventure into their history,

culture and spectacular scenery in northeastern Arizona. Now we have an excuse to go back for another trip to see the things we missed.

Our visit to Canyon de Chelly was clearly the highlight of the trip for most participants. Experiencing the Canyon, with its towering sheer walls, reaching to 1,000 feet high in places, from both the rim and the canyon floor, complete with knowledgeable native guides, was described by members of our group as “awesome,” “superb,” “thrilling,” and, with the spring water runoff, “as exciting as a raft trip.” From both educational and entertainment perspectives, the Native American guides and presenters drew praise for their understanding, humor, and willingness to share personal information to help us better-understand the Hopi and Navajo cultures, beliefs, and way of life.

If you would like to be part of the Travel Committee, email wstasi@asu.edu or gwander@asu.edu.

—Norm Perrill
Travel Committee



Just the Facts, Ma'am

Well, it might not be *Dragnet* or *CSI*, but now you have your chance to work with a police department. Earlier this year the ASU Police Department opened its doors to police volunteers. *Volunteers In Police Service* or the VIPS program marks the first time that volunteers have been welcomed into all aspects of the police department at all four campuses. There are numerous volunteer opportunities, to include assignments like tour guides for our police station, giving crime prevention presentations, helping to maintain our vehicle fleet, crime analysis, and assistance to functions like Records, Communications, and even firearms training. And, as with any new program, more opportunities continue to present themselves.

Interested individuals are encouraged to stop by the ASU Police Department, 325 E. Apache, Tempe, to look through our volunteer job description manual. Don't see something that interests you? Make a suggestion. We are open to any and all possibilities.

There are automatic and discretionary disqualifiers to becoming an ASU Police Volunteer and all volunteers must go through a background check and polygraph examination. Yet, through your assistance, we can make our campuses as safe as possible for our students, faculty, and staff.

For more information about the VIPS Program, please email asupdvollunteers@asu.edu or call Assistant Chief Jay Spradling at (480) 965-7747.

Second Time Around

For our second summer on the waterways of England aboard *Basil the King*, Barbara and I chose to do the southern ring down the Oxford canal, up and down the Thames, the Wey, the Thames tideway and back up the Grand Union canal.

Reportedly, 2007 was “the wettest summer on record,” but 2008 beat that! Arriving at Oxford, we found the Thames in flood and red warning boards up everywhere. After a day or two, we were able to access the raging river and I ventured nervously down the Sheepwash Channel. We cleared the grubby underside of the mainline railway bridge by about two inches and headed into the river. *Basil* was immediately grabbed by the current and dragged broadside downstream, belching black smoke as I hauled on the tiller to bring him round. Fortunately, nobody else was foolish enough to be out there, so we didn't hit anything and eventually *Basil's* head came round and we limped upriver against the current.

We had hoped to get to Lechlade but at Northmoor lock I was presented with a Red Warning card and the lockkeeper suggested we moor below Newbridge and wait for the flood to subside. We were just burning diesel for very little progress so, when restrictions were lifted, we decided to turn around and head back to Oxford.

We bought a 30-day visitor pass for the Thames and we meandered lazily downriver. There was very little traffic, moorings aplenty, no waiting at the locks and the keepers were unfailingly friendly and helpful. This was also true of all the other people we met on the trip including boat owners, hirers, and even the much maligned British Waterways staff. I did get yelled at for hogging the channel at Linslade but that was the only curmudgeon we met all summer.

At Bray lock we had an accident. I was entering behind a cruiser which drifted across the lock into our path. Barbara was standing in the well deck and the cratch, which took the impact, collapsed on top of her when both cratch hinges failed. She suffered a gouge on her leg and torn jeans. Like most accidents, a combination of errors led to our downfall. I was talking to the lockkeeper about rubbish bins, the assistant keeper took the bow line ashore but failed to do anything with it and the boater ahead of us lost control of his boat. Any one of the three of us could have prevented the accident had we been paying proper attention to the job in hand. Fortunately, the cruiser was carrying a rubber dinghy athwart the stern, which acted as a giant fender and prevented any damage to the boat. It

could have been a whole lot worse and I left chastened but wiser.

This was not the only incident. I tried to set *Basil* ablaze by leaving the teapot on the hob with the flame on low. This would have worked OK had I not added the tea cozy. Thank heavens for the newly installed smoke detectors!

At Duke's lock on the Oxford, a paddle ratchet pawl slipped and Barb's windlass spun out of control and rapped her across the back of the hand, raising a huge egg of a bruise. At Pangbourne meadow on the Thames, a bunch of drunken rowdies decided to ignite display quality fireworks at 2 a.m. A neighbouring skipper called the police and they left in a hurry by boat. *Basil* was covered in shredded gunpowder detritus next morning. Finally, in Guildford, *Basil* was attacked by a bunch of yobs who jumped on the roof and smashed Budweiser bottles on the rail. No real damage was done, but we had just gone to bed and it scared the hell out of us. This time, I called the police, but I never saw any sign of them. We had asked local advice about where to moor and were assured that the meadow upstream of the rowing club was safe.

At Guildford, also, our first ever American guests, Jan and Grant, joined us from Phoenix. They just loved the whole thing and extended their stay by three days, helping us on the heavily locked section of the Union through the Chilterns to Berkhamsted. Jan is an enthusiastic boater and lock operator and Grant is a culinary whiz—an ideal combination!

The highlight of our voyage was undoubtedly the passage through London on the tideway to Limehouse. I prepared for months for this. I had read all the guidance I could find on the web before leaving the U.S. and attended a marine radio course in Marlow two days after arriving from Phoenix. The night before we left Teddington I asked another boater what it was like. She said “Oh, it's just like childbirth—really scary while it's happening, but you'll feel wonderful afterwards.”

Thus reassured, we waved goodbye to the sensible boaters at Brentford and headed downriver through Hammersmith, past Parliament, the London Eye and Tower Bridge. It was magnificent! The Pool of London was really choppy but *Basil* handled it all with aplomb. He bucked and reared and the prop cavitated but there was minimal rolling and we never felt unsafe. I had bought the cheapest VHF marine radio I could find on Amazon, a Midland Atlantic mobile, and for some reason I could not raise London VTS (Thames Control) at Teddington.

"Second Time Around," continued from page 7

However, I could hear them OK on the phone and they said we could proceed. Later, the radio worked fine both to them and to Jeremy, the keeper at Limehouse. Jeremy wrote the invaluable "London Tideway" handbooks, which are free and highly recommended.

We passed Limehouse at quite a lick on the ebb tide, and I did a U-turn across the river and beat back slowly against the tide to the lock cut. We have a 43-hp diesel and it was only on half throttle—plenty of power for the task. The turn into the cut is tricky. Robert Neff, the manager at Mercia Marina, used to be a lockkeeper at Limehouse and he advised me to kill the power as soon as I entered the cut. This seemed really counterintuitive at the time as we were heading for the west wall fast, but I did as he said, and the eddy from the riverside corner of the east wall caught the stern and swung us perfectly in line for the lock. Thanks, Robert!

In spite of the rain, it was all a wonderful experience. The Oxford, the Thames, the Wey and even the Grand Union are beautiful waterways. Our new winter mooring is at Mercia Marina, Willington, on the Trent and Mersey. I am still having psychological problems with boat ownership. I worry too much! I have got to learn to relax and regain the euphoria I remember on club and hire cruisers. Maybe I should practice Buddhism all winter in preparation. I will try to mellow out this year as we explore the waterways of the North East. You can follow our progress at <http://www.public.asu.edu/~icrjc/> or e-mail me at basilboat@asu.edu if you have questions.

—Roger Carter

Prime Times is issued three or four times annually by the Arizona State University Retirees Association with special editions as needed. Articles welcome, subject to Board approval.

Contact: *Prime Times*, ASU Retirees Association, PO Box 873308, Tempe, Arizona 85287-3308.

Arizona State University Retirees Association

ASURA has a volunteer-staffed office in the Community Service Building, 200 E. Curry Rd., Room 201B in Tempe, Arizona. Office hours are generally Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. It is best to call before you stop by the office to insure that it will be open and staffed.

Phone: 480-965-7668; Fax: 480-965-7807;

Website: <http://asura.asu.edu>

Living History Video Project

Good news! The Video History Project has made a transition to in-house interviewing and DVD production. Because of budget cuts and the loss of a fundraiser to support the project, we decided to try producing the oral histories with our own talent to stretch our funds.

Thanks go out to David Scheatzle and to John McIntosh who have volunteered to be our "technical crew." Dave and John have experience in interviewing, videotaping and editing. To conduct the interviews, we are enlisting the help of other ASURA members and/or individuals who know and/or worked with our interviewees.

Although there was a modest start-up expense to purchase video camera equipment, we will no longer be paying a vendor for interviewing and producing the DVDs. Using our volunteers for this project will save enough money to extend the project for several years. One component of the project we will likely need to outsource is transcribing the videos. These are prepared in both digital and hard copy format, which we need to archive. We also hope to reinstate a fundraiser to help perpetuate the project.

Using the new in-house system, we completed three interviews this spring: Lou Weschler, Paige Mulhollan and Clyde Parker. The interviews were conducted by Elmer Gooding for Lou, Mat Betz and Ken Pollock for Paige and Colleen Jennings-Roggensack for Clyde. They turned out very well and will soon be available on DVDs.

We plan to take a break from recording this summer and resume interviews in the fall. We anticipate producing one or two interviews a month.

If you would like to get involved with this process please let me know. We can use individuals with knowledge of or experience with interviewing, video editing and transcribing. As always we invite nominations for future interviews.

To submit a nomination, send the name of your nominee along with a brief description of the person's role at ASU to the ASURA Office, PO Box 873308, Tempe, AZ 85287-3308. Or you may e-mail the information to Linda Van Scoy at lvs@asu.edu.

And a reminder, there are currently 49 DVDs available for check out in the ASURA office. A listing of those can be found on our web site.



—Linda Van Scoy

The Lady Who Civilized Young Grady Gammage

As a teenager, Grady Gammage was as backwoods as they come—a country boy in little Prescott, Arkansas who was unfamiliar with even the basic social graces and who spoke with an atrocious country twang. Yet those of us who knew President Gammage in later years marveled at his impeccable manners, his dignified bearing, and above all his remarkably perfect diction.

Who was responsible for such an amazing transformation? Primarily, his high school elocution and English teacher: Dixie Dees.

Dixie, eight years Grady's senior, recognized him as a diamond in the rough and engineered a transformation much like that of Professor Higgins with Eliza Doolittle.

The two spent many hours together, developing a friendship that would eventually ripen into a much more intimate relationship. Grady's cousin Carl Hitt recalled that Dixie introduced him to the literary classics and that teacher and student enjoyed evenings of reading poetry together.

When Grady graduated from high school in 1911, he passed a test to become a rural school teacher and was

immediately hired by a school near his home town. But he had barely started when a doctor discovered that the boy had the early stage of tuberculosis and advised him to move to a hot, dry climate as soon as possible. That's why Grady Gammage became an Arizonan—for life.

As soon as his health improved, he enrolled at the University of Arizona. But it soon became evident that he needed some financial help to continue. More importantly, he missed Dixie. He came home, renewed his deepening friendship with her, and urged her to come back with him to Arizona. To the surprise—even shock—of both their families, they stole away to Memphis and married in 1913, and she secured a teaching job in Tucson.

The rest of the story is better known—how Grady earned his degree from the U of A, taught in Winslow, became president of what is now Northern Arizona University, and in 1933 began his 27-year presidency at what became ASU.

Could it all have happened without Dixie?



—Dean Smith

Obits

Dr. Marvin H. Alisky, 86, passed away May 23, 2009. He was a distinguished professor, journalist, commentator, and political scientist. He attended Saint Mary's University before serving in the Navy 1944–45. Afterwards, he completed B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. degrees at the University of Texas and did postgraduate work at Instituto Tecnológico de Monterey in Mexico. He was a foreign correspondent in Latin America for NBC radio and The Christian Science Monitor, being one of the first journalists to document Argentine dictator Juan Peron's persecution of the Catholic Church. Back in the USA, he did TV broadcasts for the Texas Quality Network, before teaching journalism at Indiana University. In 1959, he and his wife moved to Tempe when he joined the faculty of ASU, where he served until retiring in 1990.

He was a professor of journalism and then political science, founding the Department of Mass Communication (now the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism & Mass Communication) and co-founding the Center for Latin American Studies. He authored or co-authored 19 books and more than 300 articles. He was most proud of his 1981 book *Latin American Media: Guidance and Censorship*. Over the course of his career, he

Volunteers Becky Reiss and Patty Kelley regularly read obituary notices in the two local newspapers looking for items about retirees, their spouses, current ASU employees and ASU affiliates. Some may be missed because ASU is not mentioned in the article. Please call or write to us if you know of someone whose death should be reported in Prime Times. We would like to have name, age, city of residence, date of death, and ASU department and title. Notices in this issue include all of those received since the last issue, through July 23, 2009. Check local newspapers for complete obituaries.

visited every country in Latin America. In 1960, he was a Fulbright professor in Nicaragua, where he became personal friends with the heroic opposition publisher Pedro Joaquín Chamorro and his wife Violeta, later president of Nicaragua. An ardent champion of press freedom, he visited Chamorro when he was imprisoned by the Somoza dictatorship, and then in the 1980s, when Violeta Chamorro's *La Prensa* newspaper was under siege by the Sandinista regime, he led the outcry in America that helped ease conditions until free elections were held that made Violeta president. With his expertise about Latin America, he frequently appeared on local TV and radio through the end of the 1990s and at various times wrote

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columns that appeared in the *Arizona Republic*, *Phoenix Gazette* and newspapers out of state. He was active in civic work, serving on local organizations such as the Tempe Public Library Board and the Arizona-Mexico Commission and in Washington D.C. with a presidential appointment to the Board of Foreign Scholarships overseeing the Fulbright program. He is survived by Beverly, his wife of 53 years, two sons and two grandsons. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association (File 30947 P.O. Box 60000 San Francisco, CA 94160) or to another charity of your choice.

Alexander MacLeod Cameron, 92, passed away on June 8, 2009. He was an honored WWII veteran serving in the 361st Army infantry in Europe 1942–1945. He worked many years in a lumber mill in Seattle, then as a warehouse manager in Phoenix, and in maintenance at ASU. He was preceded in death by his wife of 60 years, Barbara “Bobby” Cameron. He is survived by a son, a daughter, nine grandchildren, 11 great grandchildren, and two sisters. Donations can be made to the American Cancer Society.

Donald D. Chudanov, 87, passed away on March 17, 2009. He finished his working years at ASU. Don is survived by his wife Donna, a daughter, son, two grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, and two siblings.

Elizabeth Louise Jelinek, nee Zeman, 92, passed away Monday, April 27, 2009. Elizabeth is preceded in death by her husband, James, two brothers and two sisters. James and Elizabeth moved to Tempe in 1953 when James joined the faculty at ASU (then Arizona State College) as a professor of education. Elizabeth also began working at the university as the executive secretary for the head librarian at Matthews Library. She worked at the library for 25 years, retiring in 1978. After her husband’s death, Elizabeth moved to Arcadia, California in 2007. She is survived by her son and his family.

John W. Lowe, Sr., 90, passed away June 19, 2009. He is survived by his loving wife of 64 years, Kathryn, one son, two daughters, three grandsons and one great grand-daughter. He was preceded in death by a son, parents and three siblings. John’s career included 32 years as a professor at ASU’s College of Business. Donations may be sent to Hospice of the Valley.*

Elizabeth Mandarino, 80, passed away on May 20, 2009. Following raising her children, Elizabeth loved working at ASU in the residency office. Elizabeth is survived by her husband of 61 years, Salvatore, two sons, three nephews, five grandchildren, three great-granddaughters and many

more relatives. Donations are being accepted in her memory at Hospice of the Valley.*

Victor Jay Miller, 88, passed away on May 14, 2009. He received his B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. in horticulture from the University of Illinois. His studies were interrupted by WWII. He volunteered for the Rangers and was with the 5th Rangers during the D-Day invasion. In Germany he was taken prisoner, escaped, and was later recaptured. After the war, and graduation, he was chairman of horticulture at the University of Nebraska. He came to ASU in 1958 and taught there until retirement in 1986. He was host of *Gardening for Fun*, a weekly TV show on KAET, for more than 20 years. He also wrote a column for the *Arizona Republic* with the same name. He is predeceased by Joyce his wife of 56 years, his second wife Mary, a son, a step-grandson, and two brothers. He is survived by his wife Faye, a sister, a son, a daughter, two grandchildren, three step-grandchildren and a step-great-grandson. Contributions can be made to Community Christian Church, 1701 S. College Ave., Tempe, AZ 85281 or the Boyce Thompson Arboretum 37615 Highway 60, Superior, AZ 85273.

Vernon “Vern” LeRoy Moore, 75, passed away on March, 18, 2009. He retired from the Air Force after 23 years of service, and continued his career in computers by working at ASU, the State of Arizona Motor Vehicle Division, and finally retiring from First Interstate BanCorp in 1988. Vern is survived by a son, three daughters, four grandchildren, two great-granddaughters, and his first wife. A donation may be made to your favorite charity in Vern’s memory.

George E. Paulsen, 86, died on June 1, 2009. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy and served in the Pacific theater in World War II. Following the war, he received the baccalaureate degree in 1949 from Hobart College and the Ph.D. in 1959 from Ohio State University. He was a professor of history at ASU from 1959 until his retirement in 1991. He is survived by two cousins, a nephew and three nieces. He was preceded in death by a sister. Memorials may be made to the ASU History Department Scholarship Fund, c/o ASU Foundation.+

A.J. “Jack” Pfister died suddenly on Monday, July 20, 2009, at the age of 75. A fourth-generation Arizonan, Jack was born in Prescott on October 3, 1933. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Patricia, a daughter, a son, and his brother, along with many cousins and extended family. He was a devoted father, a loving brother and dedicated his life to improving education and encouraging community

service. Jack graduated from the University of Arizona in 1955, married in 1956, and then graduated from the University of Arizona Law School in 1959. He became a partner with the law firm of Jennings, Strouss & Salmon, where he remained until 1969. He joined SRP in 1970 and became general manager in 1976 until he retired in 1991. While at SRP, Jack advocated participatory management, initiated a special series to keep executives focused on community matters, and maintained high levels of integrity and good customer service. Among many achievements, he worked with Governor Bruce Babbitt to negotiate the state's first groundwater management act.

Jack contributed his time generously to charitable, government, and community activities. He served on the transition teams for both incoming Governor Jane Hull and incoming Mayor Phil Gordon. President Jimmy Carter tapped him for a national steering committee to analyze the impacts from the Three Mile Island accident. He also served as a board member and on the staff of the Center for the Future of Arizona. Among many honors he received was the Human Relations Award from the National Conference of Christians and Jews in 1992. In commending the award, Dr. Lattie F. Coor, then-president of Arizona State University, stated, "Jack Pfister combines an uncommon ability at problem solving with a boundless commitment to the well-being of this community and this state. By listening carefully to all who are around him, he finds the common core of decency by which a society advances itself and helps us all to make this a better place in which to live."

Contributions in Jack's memory can be made to the following charities: Pfister Family Scholarship, Maricopa County Community College District Foundation, 2419 W. 14th Street, Tempe, AZ 85281 and the Wellness Community for lung cancer support, 360 E. Palm Lane, Phoenix, AZ 85004.

Marie P. Rice, 93, passed away on May 21, 2009. She was predeceased by her husband, Ross, after 55 years of marriage. She is survived by four daughters, nine grandchildren, a sister and two nieces. She attended University of Chicago and graduated from ASU with bachelor's and master's degrees. Marie taught at ASU Payne Training School and in the Tempe Elementary School District. She was past president and active volunteer for the Tempe Historical Society. Contributions may be made to Tempe Historical Society or ASU Foundation (Ross R. Rice Fund).[†]

Warren Rice, an emeritus professor of mechanical and aerospace engineering who was on the faculty of ASU for

more than 30 years, died on June 5, 2009. Rice was at ASU from 1958 until 1990, and was one of the early leaders of engineering research at the University. He was the "father of engineering research ... a major force in improving the quality and quantity of engineering research at ASU," said Harold Nelson, a former ASU engineering student and faculty member. Rice had numerous significant research publications, and won several top teaching awards. He was a consultant to numerous companies, universities and research programs from 1948 to 2000. His expertise included some of the early efforts in environmental engineering. Rice earned his bachelor's and master's degrees and a Ph.D. at Texas A&M University. He is survived by a daughter, a son, two siblings, five grandchildren and partner Geraldine Quisenberry. Donations: Hospice of the Valley.*

L. William "Bill" Seidman, 88, died May 13, 2009. Seidman, former FDIC chairman, popular CNBC commentator and former ASU College of Business dean, is remembered as a leader who made great contributions to the economy and higher education. Seidman served as a top economic adviser to President Gerald Ford and later led the federal response to the savings and loan crisis of the 1980s as chairman of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. (FDIC). He served as the business school dean at ASU from 1982 to 1985. The school continues to honor Seidman through the economic research work accomplished at its L. William Seidman Research Institute founded in his name in 1992. Dennis Hoffman, an economics professor and director of the Institute, said that "Bill helped us make the first major step toward being the highly ranked W. P. Carey School we are today." Two important groups that Seidman created at the school also are flourishing: the Dean's Council of 100, a national group of prominent business executives who advise the school, and the Economic Club of Phoenix, a preeminent forum for the exchange of ideas about business and the economy.

Dorothy Inez Patten Shlyk, 78, passed away on May 4, 2009. Dorothy is survived by a son, a daughter, a brother and 10 grandchildren. Her first husband, Nicholas Shlyk, passed away in 1963. She was later married to Henry Gerlach for 19 years. She worked at ASU for 37 years in the office of Student Affairs. She is preceded in death by her husband Nick, her mother, father, and sister. The family suggests that donations be sent to Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Humanitarian Fund:
<http://www.ldsphilanthropies.org/humanitarian-services/>.

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Bruce Snyder, 69, who coached Arizona State to a Pac-10 football title in 1996 and came within seconds of a national championship, died April 13, 2009, of cancer. Snyder was 58–45 in nine seasons at ASU (1992–2000) and was national Coach of the Year for his 11–1 team in 1996 that only lost to Ohio State in the Rose Bowl. He coached for five seasons at California before coming to ASU. Snyder's ASU players included quarterback Jake Plummer and the late Pat Tillman. Snyder was diagnosed



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with melanoma in June. He told *The Arizona Republic* in the fall: "I've eliminated disliking my doctors that didn't catch it or my fate or circumstances. But I do believe this, though, if all of a sudden I'm gone in a year, it's been a damn good life. And I've lived a healthier longer life than most." He is survived by his wife Linda, three daughters, two grandchildren and five siblings. Donations can be made to Arizona Cancer Center, Dr. Evan Hersh/Melanoma Research Project/UAF P.O. Box 245013, 1515 N Campbell Ave, Tucson AZ 85724; Hospice of the Valley* or Doctors Without Borders at <http://www.doctorswithoutborders.org>.

Lester Moses Snyder, Jr., 79, passed away on April 7, 2009. Les and his deceased wife Audrene are survived by two sons and seven grandchildren. Dr. Snyder was a graduate of Millersville State University (BA), NYU

(MA), and University of Michigan (PhD). He moved to Tempe in 1967 where he became an associate professor, and ultimately, associate dean of the College of Education at ASU. Dr. Snyder was an active tennis player and volunteer. He served as president of the United State Tennis Association in 1995–96, and oversaw the construction of the new U.S. Tennis Center in Flushing, NY, the home of the U.S. Open. Les was a founding board member of the Rio Salado Bank and former chairman and board member of the Tempe Diplomats. Les was also president of Heuristic Systems, an educational consulting firm based in Tempe. Donations may be made to Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) "In Memory of Lester Snyder" to 5665 Oberlin Drive, Suite 106, San Diego, CA 92121 or by calling 858-597-0240.

Williams, Nevada Marie (Landon), 94, of Tempe, AZ passed away July 20, 2009. Nevada was born September 20, 1914 and raised in Piqua, OH. She moved to Tempe in 1959 with her husband Lester. She worked and retired from ASU, and then spent her time traveling and being a wonderful mother and grandmother to her family. Nevada is survived by three daughters and one son, seven grandchildren, 10 great grandchildren, and nieces and nephews. She is preceded in death by her husband Lester in 1987, a great great granddaughter, her parents, a sister and two brothers. She will be missed by all who knew and loved her.

*Hospice of the Valley, 1510 E. Flower St., Phoenix, AZ 85014.

†ASU Foundation, P. O. Box 2260, Tempe, AZ 85280-2260